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Amendments to the Claims

- (cancelled) 1.
- (currently amended) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 4 3 wherein transmission in the selected wavelength range has less than \pm 20% ripple relative to an average transmission of the selected wavelength range.
- (currently amended) A dichroic neutral density optical 3. filter comprising:
 - a substrate;
- a plurality of dielectric thin film layers disposed on the substrate to provide a wavelength response of the dichroic neutral density filter having
 - a first highly reflective region,
 - a second highly reflective region, and
- a transmissive region between the first highly reflective region and the second highly reflective region having a selected neutral density transmission across a selected wavelength range of at least about 25 nm, The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 2 wherein the average transmission is between 50% and 3.5%.
- (currently amended) The dichroic neutral density optical 4. filter of claim 1 3 wherein the selected neutral density transmission is at least 5% and transmission over the selected wavelength range varies less than \pm 2.5%
- (currently amended) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim $\frac{1-3}{2}$ wherein the selected wavelength range is within a visible spectrum.

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6. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 5 wherein at least one of the first highly reflective region and the second highly reflective region is in the visible spectrum.

- 7. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 6 wherein at least one of the first highly reflective region and the second highly reflective region is about 100 nm wide.
- 8. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 6 wherein each of the first highly reflective region and the second highly reflective region is greater than 100 nm wide in the visible spectrum.
- 9. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 8 wherein the selected wavelength range is about 100 nm wide.
- 10. (currently amended) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 8 wherein the selected wavelength range is at least 50 nm wide.
- 11. (currently amended) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim $\frac{1}{2}$ wherein the selected wavelength range is about 100 nm wide.
- 12. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 10 wherein the selected neutral density transmission is between about 6% to about 12% in a green portion of the visible spectrum.

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- 13. (currently amended) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim \(\frac{1}{2}\) wherein the plurality of dielectric thin film layers includes a first portion comprising a long stop filter and a second portion comprising a short stop filter.
- 14. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 13 wherein the long stop filter is disposed between the substrate and the short stop filter.
- 15. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 14 wherein the short stop filter is a blue reflective filter and the long stop filter is a red reflective filter.
- 16. (currently amended) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim $\frac{1-3}{2}$ wherein the transmissive region has a 50% width that is less than the selected wavelength range.
- 17. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 16 wherein at least one of the first highly reflective region and the second highly reflective region has a selected leakage between about 0.25% and 1.5%.
- 18. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 16 wherein the first highly reflective region has a selected leakage between about 0.25% and 1.5% in a red portion of a spectrum.
- 19. (currently amended) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 1-3 wherein at least one of the first highly reflective region and the second highly reflective region has a selected leakage between about 0.25% and 1.5%.

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20. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 19 wherein the first highly reflective region has a first selected leakage between about 0.25% and about 1.5% and the second highly reflective region has a second selected leakage between about 0.25% and about 1.5%.

- 21. (original) The dichroic neutral density optical filter of claim 16 wherein the 50% width and a center wavelength between 50% points of the transmissive region are selected according to a spectral output of an illuminant.
- 22. (cancelled)
- 23. (original) A dichroic neutral density optical filter comprising:

means for reflecting essentially all light over a first portion of a visible spectrum;

means for reflecting between 96.5% and 50% of light over a second portion of the spectrum, the second portion of the spectrum being at least 25 nm wide and providing a neutral density factor between 0.3 and 1.5; and

means for reflecting essentially all light over a third portion of the visible spectrum, wherein the second portion of the visible spectrum is between the first portion and the third portion.